

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 083007 TOSEC 030125
ORIGIN AF-10

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DRAFTED BY:AF:KSMITH

APPROVED BY:AF:WCHARROP

S/S-O:JETHYDEN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 083007 TOSEC 030125

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY MOOSE ALSO

FOL CAIRO 08250 SENT ACTION SECSTATE MAR 14, 1978 REPEATED
TO YOU UUOTE

C O N F I D E N I A L CAIRO 08250

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDIP UG US EG

SUBJECT: UGANDAN AMBASSADOR'S DESIRE ARRANGE MEETING WITH
IDI AMIN

1. AT FONMIN KAMEL'S DINNER LAST EVENING FOR VISITING
BELGIAN FONMIN, UGANDAN AMBASSADOR LTC. JACK BUNYENYEZI
TOOK ME ASIDE. HE FIRST SAID THAT HE EXPECTS AN "IMPOR-
TANT VISITOR" IN EARLY APRIL, WHOM HE WOULD LIKE ME TO
MEET. ASKED WHO THE VISITOR WAS, BUNYENYEZI IDENTIFIED
HIM AS IDI AMIN. AMIN, HE EXPLAINED, IS COMING ON A THREE-
DAY OFFICIAL VISIT TO EGYPT, BUT EXPECTS TO REMAIN ABOUT
A WEEK. SINCE THE AMERICAN AMBASSADORS IN NAIROBI AND
CAIRO ARE THE "ONLY TWO OFFICIAL U.S. REPS IN
THIS AREA," AS BUNYENYEZI PUT IT, HE OPINED IT MIGHT BE
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USEFUL IF I WOULD MEET WITH IDI AMIN. I MADE NO COMMIT-
MENT.

2. COMMENT: AS THE DEPT IS AWARE, BUNYENYEZI HAS OFTEN
BEEN CRITICAL OF HIS GOVERNMENT AND PRESIDENT. HE HAS
GONE OUT OF HIS WAY TO CULTIVATE GOOD RELATIONS WITH
AMERICAN EMBASSY PERSONNEL AND HAS ON A NUMBER OF OCCA-

SIONS SOUGHT TO BE HELPFUL TO US. I HAVE NO WAY OF KNOWING WHETHER HIS SUGGESTION IS A PERSONAL ONE OR INSPIRED BY HIS GOVERNMENT. IN ANY EVENT, I WOULD APPRECIATE GUIDANCE AS TO WHETHER THE DEPT SEES ANY VALUE TO MY ACCEPTING AN INVITATION TO MEET WITH IDI AMIN IN CAIRO IF SUCH AN INVITATION IS IN FACT TENDERED.

3. WHILE GOE WOULD LEAVE MATTER ENTIRELY TO US, SINCE SADAT CONSIDERS IDI AMIN A "FRIEND", HE WOULD PROBABLY APPRECIATE A WILLINGNESS ON OUR PART TO ALLOW ME TO MEET WITH AMIN WHILE LATTER IS A GUEST HERE. UP TO NOW, HOWEVER, EGYPTIANS HAVE SAID NOTHING TO US ABOUT AMIN VISIT. EILTS UNQUOTE COOPER

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Message Attributes

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